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**HAMRE, SCHUMANN,
MUELLER & LARSON, P.C.**

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**TO: Mail Stop: AMENDMENT
Examiner: MENDEZ
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

FROM: James A. Larson

OUR REF: 20043.4USD1

TELEPHONE: (612) 455.3800

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**Title of Document: COMMUNICATION IN RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR
CLARIFICATION**

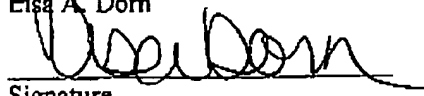
**Applicant: KAPLAN ET AL.
Serial No.: 10/002329
App. Filed: November 1, 2001
Group Art No.: 3763**

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Lisa A. Dorn


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S/N 10/002329

PATENTIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	KAPLAN ET AL.	Examiner:	M.A. MENDEZ
Serial No.:	10/002329	Group Art Unit:	3763
Filed:	November 1, 2001	Docket No.:	20043.0004USD1
Title:	METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR PERICARDIAL ACCESS		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.6(d):

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By: 

Name: Lisa A. Dorn

Mail Stop: AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**COMMUNICATION IN RESPONSE TO
REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION**

Dear Commissioner:

In response to the communication mailed July 17, 2006, Applicants respectfully request favorable consideration of the following comments.

The communication alleges that the reply filed on April 21, 2006 is non-responsive because the person who signed the amendment is not of record.

A revocation and power of attorney document was filed on June 14, 2006 in favor of the practitioners associated with Customer Number 52835. Mr. Bryan Wong, the practitioner who signed the April 21, 2006 amendment, is associated with Customer Number 52835.


In addition, according to MPEP 405 and 714.01(c), papers may be filed in patent applications by registered practitioners not of record under 37 CFR 1.34. At the time the April 21, 2006 reply was filed, Mr. Wong was acting in a representative capacity.

Applicants respectfully request favorable consideration of the above comments, and issuance of a Notice of Allowance for this case. If any further questions arise, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMRE, SCHUMANN, MUELLER &
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Minneapolis, MN 55402-0902
(612) 455-3800

Dated: July 24, 2006

By: 
James A. Larson
Reg. No. 40,443